LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims pending

- At time of the Action: Claims 31-64.

- After this Response: Claims 31-64.

Canceled or Withdrawn claims: None.

Amended claims: None.

New claims: None.

1-30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously presented)   A method facilitating the transmission of streamed digital media data from a server, the server being configured for coupling to a client via a computer network, the method comprising:

receiving multiple communications requests from a client, each requests employing a different network protocols and each request requesting that a server respond to such request using the same network protocol employed by that request;

responding to one of the requests using the same network protocol employed by that request.

32. (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 31 further comprising responding to each request using the network protocol associated with each request.

33.   (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 31, wherein the multiple communications requests arc received substantially concurrently.

34.   (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 31, wherein the network protocols employed are selected from a group consisting of TCP, UDP, HTTP, HTTP proxy, HTTP through port (multiplex) 80, and HTTP through port (multiplex) 8080.

35.   (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 31, wherein the digital media data comprises multimedia data.

36.   (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 31, wherein the digital media data is selected from a group consisting of video and audio data.

37.   (Previously presented)   A method facilitating the transmission of streamed digital media data from a server, the server being configured for coupling to a client via a computer network, the method comprising:

sending multiple communications requests to a server from a client, each request employing a different network protocols and each requests requesting that the server respond to such request using the same network protocol employed by that requests; and

receiving one or more responses from the server, wherein each response corresponds to one of the multiple requests and each response employs the same network protocol employed by its corresponding request.

38.   (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 37 further comprising determining a "most advantageous" protocol amongst network protocols employed by the responses from the server.

39.   (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 37 further comprising determining a "most advantageous" protocol amongst network protocols employed by the responses from the server, wherein the "most advantageous" protocol has been predefined as such and has an associated "most advantageous" priority, and wherein the determining comprises selecting a network protocol having the "most advantageous" priority.

40.   (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 37, wherein the multiple communications requests are sent substantially in parallel.

41.   (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 37, wherein the multiple communications requests are sent substantially concurrently.

42.   (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 37, wherein the multiple communications requests are sent within a bounded time frame.

43.   (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 37, wherein the network protocols employed are selected from a group consisting of TCP, UDP, HTTP, HTTP proxy, HTTP through port (multiplex) 80, and HTTP through port (multiplex) 8080.

44. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 37, wherein the digital media data comprises multimedia data.

45. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 37, wherein the digital media data is selected from a group consisting of video and audio data.

46. (Previously presented) A server system facilitating the transmission of streamed digital media data via a computer network, the system comprising:

a receiver configured to receive multiple communications requests from a client, such requests employing differing network protocols; and

a responder configured to respond to one of the requests using the same network protocol employed by that request.

47. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 46, wherein the responder is further configured to respond to each request using the network protocol associated with each request.

48. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 46, wherein the multiple communications requests are received substantially concurrently.

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49. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 46, wherein the network protocols employed are selected from a group consisting of TCP, UDP, HTTP, HTTP proxy, HTTP through port (multiplex) 80, and HTTP through port (multiplex) 8080.

50. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 46, wherein the digital media data comprises multimedia data.

51. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 46, wherein the digital media data is selected from a group consisting of video and audio data.

52. (Previously presented) A client system facilitating the transmission of streamed digital media data via a computer network, the system comprising:

a transmitter configured to send multiple communications requests to a server, each requests employing a different network protocols and requesting that the server respond using the same network protocol employed by that request; and

a monitor configured to receive one or more responses from the server, wherein each responses corresponds to one or more of the multiple requests and each response employs the same network protocol employed by its corresponding request.

53. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 52 further comprising a protocol selector configured to select a "most advantageous" protocol amongst network protocols employed by the responses from the server.

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54.   (Previously presented)   A system as recited in claim 52 wherein the "most advantageous" protocol has been predefined as such and has an associated "most advantageous" priority, the protocol selector configured to select the "most advantageous" protocol based on the "most advantageous" priority.

55.   (Previously presented)   A system as recited in claim 52, wherein the transmitter is further configured to send multiple communications requests substantially in parallel.

56.   (Previously presented)   A system as recited in claim 52, wherein the transmitter is further configured to send multiple communications requests substantially concurrently.

57.   (Previously presented)   A system as recited in claim 52, wherein the transmitter is further configured to send multiple communications requests within a bounded time frame.

58.   (Previously presented)   A system as recited in claim 52, wherein the network protocols employed are selected from a group consisting of TCP, UDP, HTTP, HTTP proxy, HTTP through port (multiplex) 80, and HTTP through port (multiplex) 8080.

59.   (Previously presented)   A system as recited in claim 52, wherein the digital media data comprises multimedia data.

60.   (Previously presented)   A system as recited in claim 52, wherein the digital media data is selected from a group consisting of video and audio data.

61.   (Previously presented)   A method comprising:

sending multiple requests to a server from a client, each request employing a different network protocol and requesting that the server respond using the same network protocol employed by that request;

receiving one or more responses from the server, wherein each response corresponds to one of the multiple requests and each response employs the same network protocol employed by its corresponding request;

determining if a predefined "best" network protocol is employed by a response from the server; and

if the predefined "best" network protocol is employed by a response from the server, saving parameters pertaining to the predefined "best" network protocol to enable the client to communicate with the server in future communications using the predefined "best" network protocol.

62.   (Previously presented)   A method as recited in claim 61, further comprising:

if the predefined "best" network protocol is not employed by a response from the server, selecting a "most advantageous" network protocol employed by a response from the server; and

conducting future communications between the client and the server using the "most advantageous" network protocol.

63. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 62, further comprising:

determining that the "most advantageous" network protocol is no longer appropriate;

ascertaining a new "most advantageous" network protocol employed by a response from the server; and

conducting future communications between the client and the server using the new "most advantageous" network protocol.

64. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 62, wherein the client and the server comprise a computer network that employs a network topology, and wherein the determining comprises discovering that the network topology has changed.

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